

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 148498
ORIGIN EA-06

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INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 148498

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRD, EINV, CH, US, HK

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE PRC INTEREST IN JOINT VENTURES

1. THE DEPARTMENT HAS LEARNED FROM NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR
US CHINA TRADE OF RECENT CHINESE APPROACH THROUGH THEIR
REP IN HONG KONG, JOHN KAMM, FOR NCUSCT ASSISTANCE IN
CONTACTING SUITABLE US FIRMS FOR SETTING UP JOINT VENTURES
IN CANTON AND SHANGHAI. ACCORDING TO NCUSCT, CHINA RE-
SOURCES COMPANY ASKED KAMM TO GATHER NAMES OF COMPANIES IN
A NUMBER OF FIELDS INCLUDING ELECTRONICS. CHINESE PROPO-
SAL APPEARS TO INVOLVE JOINT VENTURE INCORPORATED
THROUGH HONG KONG WITH FACILITIES LOCATED IN SOME FORM OF
FREE TRADE ZONES IN CHINESE PORT CITIES. MANY ASPECTS RE-
MAIN UNCLEAR, AND IN VIEW OF THE STRIKING IMPLICATIONS OF
THE INITIATIVE, THE NATIONAL COUNCIL IS REACTING CAUTIOUS-
LY UNTIL DETAILS ARE CLARIFIED. AS A FIRST PRIORITY,
COUNCIL IS ATTEMPTING TO FIND OUT WHO HAS RESPONSIBILITY
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FOR THE PROJECT IN THE PRC.

2. NATIONAL COUNCIL IS HOLDING THIS INFORMATION VERY
CLOSELY AND HAS ASKED US TO DO THE SAME. CONGEN MAY WANT
TO RAISE THE SUBJECT WITH KAMM IN ORDER TO BE KEPT ABREAST
OF DEVELOPMENTS. VANCE

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